



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR CULTURE

What's been going on at the Pontifical Council for Culture
Circular Letter for Members and Consultors, N. 4 (29 July 2015)

The Women's Consultation Group



A permanent Women's Consultation Group met for the first time Tuesday 23 June. Desired by the president to give explicit feedback on the various projects he oversees, vision and shape to any new initiatives as well as help in identifying cultural priorities for women, the growing group consists of university professors and mothers, diplomats and journalists, political activists and scientists, bureaucrats and women in the media. In welcoming them, Cardinal **Gianfranco RAVASI**, to whom the Group will refer directly, said he looks forward to hearing their advice and being challenged by their insights.

CULTURE E FEDE



CULTURES AND FAITH

The latest edition of the Dicastery's journal has been sent out to subscribers and has its focus on women's cultures, theme of our 2015 Plenary Assembly. Vol. XXIII 2015 N.2 gathers the fruits of that meeting, and is a snapshot of the ongoing reflections as we take up Pope Francis' invitation to discern how to engage with the real gifts women bring to cultures and to the Church. Those memorable four days of reflecting on equality and diversity in women's cultures with the help of a group of women are captured here with some of the inputs and some subsequent reflections. There are many different points of view and diverse voices, treasures from the past, critiques of current roles, and expressions of hope for the future.

Visitors and Administrative Meetings

The Dicastery received, among others, the Ambassadors of Russia and Switzerland, exponents of the trans-European pilgrim routes of St Martin, musicians, theatre directors and also organisers for the November 2015 Courtyard of the Gentiles events at La Plata (Argentina), Montevideo (Uruguay),

Madrid and Salamanca (Spain). Other visitors included a delegation from the soccer club *Boca Juniores*, the Club of Rome, a Chinese Intercultural NGO, and the directors of *Nessuno tocchi Caino*.

The Delegate, Bishop **Carlos AZEVEDO**, attended two important international meetings. The first at Luanda, Angola, a Conference on “Paul VI and Liberation Movements”, during a meeting on the theme “The contribution of the Churches to the process of Independence in Angola” (30 June - 2 July), the second was a high-level meeting held in Yerevan, Armenia, on “Cultural Policy: Policy for Culture” reflecting on the role of culture in sustainable development in the Framework of the Agenda of the post-2015 dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the establishment of UNESCO (11-13 July).

On 23 June 2015, the undersecretary, Monsignor **Melchor SANCHEZ DE TOCA**, received the Joint Working Group of the World Council for Churches and the Catholic Church.

The Administrative Council of the Courtyard of the Gentiles met 16 July.

The Council for Coordination of the Pontifical Academies met to make its selection for its Prize on 2 July.



Institution of the Eucharist, tapestry by Rubens now features in our Pavilion at Expo Milano.

Pope Francis has indicated as the charity for Expo: [Refugees in Jordan](#)

Spotlight on our Patronage

Each year the Dicastery gives its patronage to some 70 initiatives. The list of those who have successfully applied is published on our website together with the regulations, which state that our patronage is a form of moral support for initiatives considered worthy due to their cultural, artistic, scientific and pastoral aims. Organised by a variety of people or institutions, these might be artistic events, conferences, meetings, exhibitions, or festivals of particular merit.

The following is a selection of those active during this last month:

Fireworks display at Castel Sant’Angelo (29 June)



“The Emergence and Effects of the Sacred”, Conference Series, Naples – Chicago (June 15-17)

First International Workshop: The Emergence and the Effects of the “Sacred”

First International Workshop
The Emergence and the Effects of the “Sacred”
Planning for Year 1 Working Group Conference
Chicago, Loyola University
Naples, Department of Humanities, Federico II University
June, 15-17th 2015

[Programma](#)

Festival of Sacred Theatre, San Miniato (29 June-22 July), pictured a scene from *A Castle in the Heart – Life of St Theresa of Avila*



International Catholic Film Festival, Rome (25 June)

 **MirabileDictu**
International Catholic Film Festival

A Festival of Organ Music, featuring Jean Guillou, Thomas Trotter and new compositions, (9 June – 12 July)



Master in Sport Management, LUMSA University, Rome (presentation 1 July)



This circular letter bridges the gap between our Review Cultures and Faith, still coming to you three times a year, and the information on our website www.cultura.va and various social media. Richard Rouse.